

FOLLOWING FRANCIS REDFERN

BY

W. G. TORRANCE, M.A.

PART V

This part relates some events in Uttoxeter after 1648 ; it also contains noteworthy records of some Uttoxeter citizens during the 17th Century.

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IN 'THE LAST PART' of this work, we recorded, as Redfern had done, the surrender of the remnant of the Duke of Hamilton's army, who in 1648 had invaded England to support King Charles.

This strange attack on their late allies was made by the Scots partly because it had become clear that there was little hope of the establishment of Presbyterianism in England ; and there is little doubt that Charles had made promises to the Scottish government that he would take this unlikely action. There was also an uneasy alliance between the Royalists in Scotland and the Presbyterians.

We also noted that Cromwell brought the whole Scottish plans to nought by his victories at Preston and Dunbar, while General Lambert captured the last of the invaders at Uttoxeter. There are also records showing that already the Parliament army (and a kind of secret system reporting to London) were more and more assuming the role of religious extremists, Presbyterians disagreeing with the so-called "Independents", who were most numerous in the ranks, and who considered that each "Congregation" should decide its own principles and forms of worship. Uttoxeter, as we have seen, was involved in both of these matters (see p.3 in Part IV).

After the execution of Charles in 1649, the Parliament again faced more troubles ; the Scots recognized Prince Charles as King, and though many of the former Scots army under its experienced General, Leslie, were rather hesitant, they were persuaded to invade England again in 1651, the new king having a plan to reach London. The Parliamentary army, as we have seen before, was quite well-equipped with artillery etc., and by the time the invading Scots had reached the Severn Valley they were opposed at Worcester by Cromwell. The Parliamentary forces must have been drawn from scattered groups, some in the North, for we have already recorded that their magazine (i.e. ordnance column) was

transported to 'Tamworth on its way from Uttoxeter to Worcester, by Peter Lightfoot's team of horses, for which as Redfern quoted from the Constables' accounts, he received £1 - 4 /-. The wanderings and final escape of Charles II after the Battle of Worcester are well-known, but the Uttoxeter area had little to do with this. Still, there arose among Royalists the custom of wearing a sprig of oak on May 29th, the date in 1660 when Charles II was restored. The custom caught the fancy of many schoolboys, especially in South Staffordshire, though few of them really understood what the war had really been about ; many, no doubt, were descended from Parliamentary supporters, whose ancestors had taken part in trying to capture Charles ; like all schoolboys they took the opportunity of horseplay, or at times bullying, for if another boy failed to "show his oak" he was promptly struck by a stinging nettle. This custom was common in my own schooldays, though there is no doubt that the size and strength of those posing as Royalists were the deciding factors. I have found indications that Penkridge was one school where the custom was known in the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

As Redfern reported, Uttoxeter people were more concerned with what the Parliament intended to do about the royal estates of the Duchy of Lancaster, which had come under Parliament's control.

Cromwell was forced by circumstances to adopt dictatorial methods to bring settled order to the disagreements between Parliament, the Army, and former Royalists. After some opposition from members of Parliament, and because Royalist threats of renewed warfare were feared, Cromwell expelled some members from the House and called a "Convention" to prepare for full Parliamentary elections ; his plan to include representatives of Scotland and Ireland was some years ahead of his time, and his Parliament of 1654 was the most representative of reliable British citizens, and did, in fact, include members from Scotland and Ireland.

Staffordshire representatives included Bradshaw and Harrison for Newcastle-under-Lyme. Thomas Harrison had been second in command to Cromwell while the latter was in Ireland and Scotland, and was one who signed the death warrant of Charles I. John Bradshaw was a barrister of some note, and had presided at the trial of King Charles. Bradshaw

died before the Restoration in 1660, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, but his body was disinterred (with those of Cromwell and Ireton, and hung in chains) ; but Samuel Pepys in his diary describes the execution of General Harrison and his calm courage. Another Staffordshire M.P. during the Protectorate was Thomas Mynors, who represented Lichfield. He had been a supporter of Parliament (though his relatives in Uttoxeter were Royalists) all through the Civil War, but disagreed with those who tried and executed Charles I in 1649. Thomas Mynors made a number of charitable gifts to Lichfield.

At the Restoration in 1660, when Charles II called his first Parliament, Thomas Mynors was a candidate, but was not elected ; however, after a petition against the election of a Mr. Watson on the grounds of unfairness in counting of voices (i.e. votes) Thomas Mynors was declared elected. He thus sat in Parliament both during the Protector's rule and after the Restoration.

To return to the Parliament called by Cromwell in 1654, we have to record that there were so many disagreements both on constitutional and religious questions that Cromwell, in order to secure settled government felt compelled to become an arbitrary ruler ; by a queer turn of fate this was mainly why he had fought against the Royalists. But Cromwell's dictatorship was different ; though the country was divided into districts, each under a Major-General, and though some oppression of Royalists occurred, we have already noted that in Staffordshire we have instances of fair treatment of former Royalist supporters. On pp. 27 - 32 of Part IV we have quoted several examples of this.

Redfern does not appear to have been very much interested in the way in which local events were closely connected with the wider general history of the nation. But on p.148 (2nd Edn.) of his story, he considers the expenses shown by the Constables' accounts for Uttoxeter. After the heavy demands made by both sides during the Civil War, and continued to a smaller amount during the Protectorate, Redfern mentions two significant sums paid to celebrate the proclamations of Cromwell as Lord Protector and of Charles II as king at the Restoration.

Cromwell's appointment was celebrated at the expense of one shilling, whereas the Proclamation of Charles II cost five times as much, and the celebration of his Coronation eight times as much. Moreover, the town discovered that the change in government did not bring much relief, for Redfern quotes from the accounts for 1667 that their new Royal Master received from the town no less than four sums of fairly large amounts in the first three months of the year, viz., two payments of £44 1s. 1d. each, another of £14 13s. 8½d. (even ½d. had some value at that time), and still another of £29 7s. 5d. These matters are recorded on p. 148 of 2nd Edn., but on the next page Redfern passed to the great events of 1688, when the Revolution which dismissed James II in favour of William and Mary occurred.

There was, however, a matter of local interest raised by Parliament during the interregnum; this was the disposal of the Duchy of Lancaster estates. While there was no King (and so no Duke of Lancaster) Needwood Forest, the largest area of former Royal property in Staffordshire, was still valuable as capital, and as a source of annual income. As early as 1650 it was proposed that these Duchy woodlands should be sold for the benefit of Parliamentary expenses. A valuation was made, and Sir Oswald Mosley in his History of Tutbury found that a record could still be found in the Augmentation Office. This was originally "The Augmentation Court", set up by Henry VIII to deal with increase in Royal funds when the monasteries were closed. The office seems to have continued when Mary I closed the Augmentation Court.

The proposals met with keen opposition from interested local people (even rioting is mentioned in some reports) and were abandoned. At the Restoration the King, as owner of Duchy of Lancaster estates, ordered that no enclosures of land or sale of any kind should be made.

It is doubtful whether King Charles took much personal interest in Needwood; in fact, probably as a reward for his services in bringing about the Restoration, General Monk, now Duke of Albemarle, was granted the Needwood estates in 1663. It would seem that he was not anxious to assume possession, for other royal properties were substituted for Needwood and the Duchy remained a Royal Estate as before.

Before passing to Redfern's account of Uttoxeter events during the deposition and flight of James II it is necessary to relate some notable careers of Uttoxeter men at the time of the first Stuart monarchs. First we will deal with some uncertainties about a man mentioned several times by Redfern, but of whom we still do not know the full story ; under Thomas Lightfoot, the father of Dr. John Lightfoot (whose life story we do know and will relate in full on future pages) and Peter Lightfoot, was a curate, Lawrence Dawson ; in Part IV we have recorded how he was closely involved in the proceedings by which, in the years from 1625 - 1637, there was an attempt to deprive Uttoxeter of its common rights on the High Wood. We also recorded that Peter Lightfoot refused to agree to proposals made by the officers of the Duchy of Lancaster when Lawrence Dawson and other citizens of Uttoxeter rather abjectly signed documents which admitted that the King's rights were paramount. In the end these proceedings were terminated, without loss to the freholders of the town, by the outbreak of the great Civil War in 1642. Now the manorial survey of 1629 records that there was "One close of pasture or meadow at Stonyford (i.e. near the Hockley Brook) called Cunnygree, 2 acres, 1 rood, 5 perches in extent ; it was bought by Humphrey Hill" (presumably when a syndicate had bought the whole of the Manor of Uttoxeter and had resold parts to various landholders). When the survey of 1629 (now in the Public Record Office) was copied for the office of a lawyer of Uttoxeter, this land was reported to have been purchased by Lawrence Dawson (called "Mr." Dawson by the scribe). The survey also records that "Mr." Dawson owned a house and land near the Churchyard.

The old map in Uttoxeter Church (already mentioned in previous chapters) shows that Lawrence Dawson held a fairly large area of the land which is now part of the Alleyne's Grammar School playing fields ; the map appears to indicate that there was access to this land from Bradley Street ; the arched entrance still existing opposite the present bus station confirms this suggestion. The survey of 1629 states that the land, still called the "Flats", had two portions. The piece nearer (to the town) was sold to "Mr." Dawson, the further (again divided into two parts) to Mr. Cotton.

The old map previously mentioned confirms these holdings, naming "Roland Cotton, Esqre" as the owner concerned. It may be conjectured with some certainty that this gentleman, who also owned the Great Parks adjoining

to Stramshall, was the patron of John Lightfoot, second son of Rev. Thomas Lightfoot, Vicar of Uttoxeter. He became Sir Roland Cotton of Bellaport, and appointed John Lightfoot, Rector of Ashley (not Ashby as Redfern stated in several places).

Sir Roland must have purchased his Uttoxeter lands before the survey was made in 1629, for there is a note in the Register at Ashley that Sir Roland, of Norton-le-Hale, Shropshire, was buried in 1634.

Lawrence Dawson became "Minister" of Uttoxeter in 1657, and became Rector of Bramshall in 1658, the year in which Cromwell died. There have been some suggestions that during his Curacy under Thomas Lightfoot he also acted as Master of Alleyne's Grammar School. If so, his ownership of a house near the Churchyard may be significant, for the Grammar School stood down Bridge Street, or School-house Lane as it was then called.

Lawrence Dawson continued as Rector of Bramshall until his death in 1674. His will, which had been preserved by his relatives, the Warner family, at Bramshall, was drawn up and witnessed in 1674 by Peter Lightfoot and Francis Thomlinson. (Redfern noted that as he had given the year of Peter's own death as 1671, there must be an error ; in fact the real error was made by Redfern himself, for Peter Lightfoot died in 1677 — not 1671).

I feel certain that there is another error in giving the name "Francis Thomlinson" as the second witness. Peter Lightfoot's younger daughter was Ann Tomkinson ; her husband was Francis Tomkinson, and though I have not seen Lawrence Dawson's will, there is a clear spelling "Tomkinson" in Peter Lightfoot's own will. The 1629 survey mentions Francis Tomkinson as holding land here. This Francis, if he owned land as early as 1629 (as he did) was probably the father of Ann's husband, rather than the younger man to whose children Peter Lightfoot left quite considerable sums by his will and codicil. We shall refer to this Will fully later on.

With regard to Lawrence Dawson, we can only add the following facts given by Venn's "Alumni Cantabrigienses". Lawrence Dawson, Sizar from Trinity, Easter 1617. Scholar 1619, B.A. 1620-21, M.A. 1624. Ordained Deacon (Lichfield), June 15th, 1624. Vicar of Uttoxeter, 1653 - 1658. (N.B.—His earlier clerical work is not mentioned). Rector of Bramshall, Staffs., 1659 - 1674. Buried at Bramshall, October 3rd, 1674.

His will is printed in Redfern, 2nd Edn. It had been preserved by his relatives (the Warner family at Bramshall, and in Redfern's time was in the hands of Mr. Frost of Uttoxeter Workhouse.

The items of his will may be found of interest :

- Legacies — to his daughter Hester Townsend, £5.
— to her two sons John and Thomas, 20/- each.
— to his grandchildren Thomas Beech and Mary Beech, 20/- each.
— to Lawrence and George, children of George Warner, 20/- each.
— to his two servants, John Startin and Elizabeth Clark, 10/- each.
— to the poor at his funeral, £3 /6 /8.

All the remainder (with cattle, cart, farm implements) to his son William Dawson, who was appointed Executor.

Witnessed by —

Peter Lightfoot.

Francis Thomlinson (*sic*).

The mystery, if any, of his move to Bramshall Rectory (the living was given by Lord Wenman in 1658) must remain until some future discovery may be made.

We must next record the career of another Uttoxeter worthy of this period. On p.5 of Part IV of this work there was an account of Uttoxeter-born John Spencer hearing a sermon preached in 1643 by Dr. John Lightfoot to Parliament. This John Spencer appears to have gone to London to work for a Stationer in the early years of James I. There is in the 1629 Survey mention of Isabel Spencer, a widow living near Hollingbury ; she had a cottage and about four acres of land ;

the same survey records that the heirs of Robert Spencer held between one and two acres on a site in Balance Street, on which many years later stood (and still stands) the home of Mary Howitt's father, Samuel Botham. As John Spencer left the town at an early age to become, one would suppose, an apprentice to a Stationer in London, it may not be unlikely that he was the widow's son. But he had (so the Rev. Thomas Fuller, author of the famous "Worthies of England", tells us in a Preface which he wrote to a book compiled by John Spencer) been familiar with books and bookmen all his life ; it is true, however, that Fuller adds "John Spencer was no scholar". Yet Spencer had some knowledge of Latin, and it may quite reasonably be conjectured that this was obtained from Thomas Alleyne's Grammar School ; it may even be possible that if he really was a widow's son, he could have been one of a succession of "poor scholars" who were taught at the school in return for their services in sweeping out the school, and providing the master with rods. (As the usual punishment for breaking Thomas Alleyne's rules for the school reads "sub pene virgae", i.e. "under penalty of the rod", the poor scholar may have had no little task in providing rods in sufficient numbers). No matter whether these conjectures are correct, we know from Sion College records that "John Spencer, stationer, was appointed First Clerk at Sion College in March 1631."

Sion College had been founded in 1626 by a legacy from Prebendary White of St. Paul's, London ; it was to be a college Guild for London Parochial Clergy, and stood on the site of a former Priory, near London Wall. It comprised rooms for students, a Library and Almshouses. John Spencer became Librarian in 1633, and with two short interruptions he remained at work there until he died in 1680.

Curiously enough, Dr. John Lightfoot, Rector of Ashley, Staffs., and son of Rev. Thomas Lightfoot, Vicar of Uttoxeter, went up to London in 1642. He left his brother Josiah as Curate at Ashley, and studied at Sion College. We have no mention by either John Lightfoot or John Spencer that they communicated with each other ; but John Spencer related, in his collection of extracts from many great writers and other prominent men, that he heard the Rev. Thomas Lightfoot preach in Uttoxeter Church in 1624. We have also noted above that he heard Dr. John Lightfoot preach to the House of Commons in 1643, i.e. during the Civil War. John Spencer wrote that he again heard Rev. Thomas

Lightfoot preach in Uttoxeter Church in the same year. Evidently Spencer visited his home town periodically, and he must have known that John Lightfoot made use of Sion College.

The huge book referred to contains over 2,000 notable sayings or writings of great men of all ages, especially of a religious or philosophical kind ; Spencer may not have been a great scholar, but it is clear that he must have read widely in the books under his care. The particular volume from which I have quoted was published in London in 1658, and came to the Salt Library among a number of books from the collection of the Mander family of Wolverhampton. The grandiose title shows that Spencer was doing his best to become well-known ; the fact that the Rev. Thomas Fuller, himself a distinguished writer, wrote a Preface for Spencer indicates that Fuller, despite his rather patronising remarks, held John Spencer in high esteem, and in the Preface gives the opinion that the book should be regarded as a useful publication. We give the full title : "A Storehouse of Similes, Sentences, Allegories, Apophthegms, Adages, Apologues, Divine, Moral, and Political, collected and observed from the writings and sayings of the learned in all ages to the present" by John Spencer of Uttoxeter, Librarian of Sion College. He also kept an "admission" book, showing the names of students having the use of the Library from 1632 - 1677 ; catalogues of the Library, of books placed for safety at the Charterhouse when the Great Fire of 1666 destroyed some volumes and others were lost, and so on.

He seems to have made his own collections and presented them to the College — no fewer than 220 volumes between 1631 and 1658.

It is curious that though Spencer was in London when Milton, Ben Jonson, even Shakespeare and Sir Philip Sidney were recognised as great writers, he makes no mention of these ; but he quotes from Bacon, Sir Walter Raleigh, Cervantes the author of "Don Quixote", Plutarch's "Lives", and Holinshed's "Chronicles", both of which were used as source books by Shakespeare. It may well be that the Puritan influences of the period discouraged the Drama and perhaps Spencer's education and the books he encountered in his Library were not of a poetical nature.

Spencer seems to have avoided political troubles of his day ; though his daily work from 1631 to 1658 must have brought him into close touch with Puritan and Parliamentary persons rather than Royalists, his connection with Fuller shows that he was well-regarded by some men of both types. Fuller had opposed Parliament during the war, and as a Royalist Chaplain took part in the defence of Exeter, which was besieged and captured in 1646. He occupied a room at Sion College, and so knew Spencer well. Spencer seems to have been proud of his Uttoxeter birthplace, signing himself J. S. de Utcester Staffordiensis et collegii Sionii apnd Londinenses Bibliothecarius minime dignus. (perhaps the last two words are really modest outwardly only).

The above account and College Records show that Spencer must have made efforts to save the chief contents of the Library from the Great Fire ; we have no direct information about his actions in the previous year, 1665, when Plague wrought such havoc in London. It seems probable that, like Pepys at his Navy Office, he kept to his post as Librarian. In this connection we have to note that Uttoxeter was fortunate during the years — not only 1665 — when plague visited towns far from London ; e.g. we have the brave efforts of the parson and villagers to confine the epidemic at Eyam in Derbyshire in 1665.

But 1665, the Great Plague year, was only the worst of several visitations. Redfern (pp. 311 and 312 of 2nd Ed.) notes from the Parish accounts of 1646 (just after the end of the first phase of the Civil War) that cases of plague caused great alarm ; in spite of the great demands for money which Uttoxeter had had to meet from both Royalists and Parliament, the town contributed £3 to aid Ashbourne, 5 shillings to the village of Clifton, £2 9s. to Lichfield, and £4 9s. to Stafford. The same accounts, as Redfern recorded, show that some cases of plague did occur among soldiers at Uttoxeter, where the Parish paid for a cabin to be built where the patients were isolated, and also met the demands made by three warrants (? of Parliament) for payment of 7/- concerning the plague.

John Spencer survived the plague in 1665 and continued his work at Sion College until his death in 1680. It seems extraordinary that his career passed unnoticed by his native town until 1967, when the late Mr. S. A. H. Burne of the Salt Library, Stafford, discovered that the title of Spencer's

1658 book gave his birthplace as Uttoxeter. Certainly, the town may take pride in the life-story of such a man.

In most history books, the period with which we have been dealing is related to the causes, progress, and consequences of the Civil War, and the ordinary life and activities of common people are but little noted.

We have recorded that the years following the close of the great French Wars and the Wars of the 14th and 15th centuries were marked by considerable improvement in the condition of tradesmen and small town merchants, and of the tenants of manors and freeholders. During the Tudor period this gradual improvement of such persons continued. We have also recorded that when the Manor of Uttoxeter was sold to a syndicate of courtiers by Charles I in 1625, there were some Uttoxeter gentlemen wealthy enough to buy portions of the estates, and a fair number of other citizens who could afford to purchase or rent the various holdings which became available, even if they were in some cases only a few acres. Thus the manorial survey of 1629 lists wealthier landowners such as the Mynors, Hart, Kynnersley, and Blount families ; of these we may note that Sir Henry Blount had over 500 acres, Walter Mynors 350 acres, Thomas Kynnersley 135 acres, John Hart 285 acres ; even among those who did not claim to be "Gentlemen" or "Esquires", Richard Startin is said to hold burgages and other parcels of land totalling 89 acres. Peter Lightfoot's son-in-law Francis Tomkinson (already noted above) held lands stated to have been once owned by Messrs. Mynors, Bott, Startin, and Daniell, totally only 6 acres, but he had *purchased* them ; indeed, out of 196 manorial freeholders, no fewer than 46 are marked P, i.e. Purchasers, as distinct from others marked T, i.e. Tenants. For a town of the size of Uttoxeter in the period we are considering, it is clear that a fair number of inhabitants were landowners ; this must be quite an important change from the conditions of pre-Tudor times. The old map of Uttoxeter to which we have previously referred shows that the general lay-out and main streets were already almost as they were in the 19th century ; the map also shows that all the streets were lined on both sides by buildings of various sizes. This improvement in the general prosperity of the town is confirmed by the parish accounts, which have, in part at least, survived. Uttoxeter, as we have pointed out, was compelled during the Civil War to pay heavy sums to both

Royalist and Parliamentary forces ; this does not seem to have ruined the town, though no doubt the demands must have caused temporary distress. But we have another source of information about the financial affairs of Uttoxeter in the number of wills which have survived.

The researches of Miss Marie Rowlands have produced examples of unusual personal property in the period 1660 - 1697. Thomas Lees, cloth merchant, had goods in his shop to the value of £374 — a large amount in 1664, the date of his will, which shows that he had lived through the worst period of the Civil War. In his will of 1663, Thomas Chamberlayne, tanner, did not state the total value of his estate, but we learn that he owned a tanyard, a pool with hides in it, leather in “the press” ; also that his house contained two parlours, two chambers (bedrooms?) and two cocklofts, i.e. attics. He appears to have been reasonably well-off at his death, yet he too, dying about 1663, must have come through the war period. The survey of 1629 contains the names of four Chamberlayne families, possibly related ; Edmund, son of Edward Chamberlain, is listed (in a later hand) as owning a number of fields *purchased* from several persons, including Mynors, Startin, Fearn, Naylor, Moore — all these being mentioned in the 1629 Survey. From his will of 1672, we find that William Lees had an estate of £492, chiefly stock-in-trade of his shop. He was a “Mercer”, i.e. in modern terms, a draper, selling silk and woollen goods, and similar materials. He had competition in his trade, for in the period we are considering, the town had at least three other Mercers, of the families of Gilbert, Sherwin, and Stubbing. All of these families lived in Uttoxeter throughout the war period and are listed in the 1629 survey. It may be of interest to note that the map to which we have often referred shows that Thomas Sherwin owned land on both sides of the Hockley Road, and that where now Oldfields Road branches off to the West, lay Gilbert’s orchard. The 1629 survey states that a William Sherwin had purchased over 20 acres of land from the “heirs of Bird”.

There are two wills of special interest ; first, in 1662, Richard Bullock, Barber surgeon, had a shop with a “partition” ; he also had a stable, hall, and parlour. In the shop were a number of dishes, saucers, basins, “blonding” porringers, tin dishes “to warm water”, and cases of

instruments. He was not mentioned in the 1629 survey, but may not have been in Uttoxeter Manor, or indeed in the town at all, for there must in 1662 have been throughout England men who had been army surgeons and had settled in towns after being discharged from the armies of either side.

It is only a matter of conjecture, but the shop with its partition may well have been on the premises of Peter Lightfoot, and the partition in that case may refer to the entry, still existing, between the houses of Peter Lightfoot and Thomas Salt, baker. Some colour is given to this conjecture by a note in Redfern (2nd Edn., p. 241)) where he quotes from the Parish Register : "Robert Clark Barker (or Barber), Surgeon, buried the 23rd day of April, 1644". Redfern noticed that this surgeon was not mentioned "in the Survey". As we have several times mentioned, Redfern thought that this survey had been made in 1658 by Peter Lightfoot, but the survey Redfern used was a copy (perhaps made by Peter Lightfoot) of a Survey made (by the order of King Charles) by Byrche and Parsons in 1629, and signed and dated by them. The copy used by Redfern is identical with this, which is still to be seen in the Public Record Office. So we may conclude that Barker (or Barber), surgeon, was not a tenant of the Manor (it had been sold by King Charles in 1625, though apparently some parts were not included in the sale. No matter how all this may be regarded, the division of some of the houses into two parts seems to indicate that the site was indeed where the present premises of Messrs. G. Orme & Sons Ltd. stand. These were known as "The Old Swan" and were purchased by Ralph Bagnall, Peter Lightfoot's uncle, and later passed to Peter, who says in his will (dated July 21st, 1677) that his household consisted of himself, John Woodroffe and Mrs. Barker. We also have evidence that Thomas Salt, Baker, occupied the next house, and this seems to confirm the division of "the Old Swan" noted above. If these conjectures are true, the widow of a surgeon seems to have been keeping house for Peter Lightfoot, and this may be a confirmation of Lightfoot's reputation as a Physician.

Except for the statement of Strype that Peter was a "practical" Physician in Uttoxeter, the above is the only connection with surgery that can be found at present. Peter never described himself as a Physician ; we have various legal documents extant in which he always describes himself as a "Gentleman" (this occurs in his will). Redfern always

referred to him as "Physician", but I have been unable to find any trace of a licence issued to him, as was necessary then, in the Lichfield diocesan records. It may be that Strype's use of the adjective "practical" has some significance. It might be thought that diocesan records are incomplete or confused owing to the Civil War, but as Peter was born about 1604 and was married to Dorothea (surname not known), mother of his three children *before* 1632, he must have been in practice as a physician, if at all, before that time. The 1629 Survey, revised possibly in the years before 1658, shows him to be holding over 80 acres of land, and he owned a strong team of horses in 1651 ; these facts seem to imply that he had a busy life farming, apart from his work as a physician.

The second will of interest from a medical point of view is that of Sam Freeman, Apothecary, 1669. There is no evidence that he had any medical connection with Peter Lightfoot, or indeed how long he lived in Uttoxeter, but part of his life must have overlapped that of Peter, whose will was dated 1677, the year of Peter's death. The inventory shows that Freeman's goods in stock were valued at £65 — probably worth twenty or thirty times that amount of modern currency.

We may record that a third person of this type, in 1696, named John Bray, had goods worth £40 in his apothecary's shop, and his will shows that in all he was worth £85.

We can also gain some idea of the generally prosperous families of the town from the fact that we have records of the wills of Robert Gilbert, William Lees, Francis Sherwin, Thomas Lees, and George Stubbing, all *Mercers*. This number of *Mercers* implies that there were sufficient customers with money to spend on clothing stuffs, mainly, one supposes, for smart ladies. Also, from the will of Christopher Baldwyn, dyer, whose house has no less than thirteen rooms, besides a warehouse and dyehouse ; he also had in stock copper, lead, and other "colouring stuff" worth £15. There were also in Uttoxeter at that time a cloth merchant worth £374, a weaver in Balance Street who owned three looms, and another loom at Leigh ; seven tradesmen / tanners, saddlers, shoemakers and courvisors (i.e. leather merchants) — all dealing with goods which were necessary to all inhabitants of the town and district. We find also three ironmongers and one cutler ; the last named is said to have sold various kinds of knives, knitting needles, whips, horse furniture and harness ;

the association of the last two items appears strange for a cutler, but "harness" not many years before was used for defensive armour (breast-plates, etc.) for soldiers ; it had not the same meaning as in modern language. The will of only two blacksmiths, which is a smaller number than might be expected when all travel of any distance required horses ; but the two blacksmiths were evidently citizens of some standing — Robert Smart was one whose will showed that he was worth £329 ; the other was Sampson Bakewell, whose estate totalled £116 ; we find that his six-roomed house contained four Bibles and other books worth 15 /-, one pair of virginals, one "base" viol, two treble viols, and other musical instruments worth £5 10s.

He evidently employed at least two men, for in his shop he had three pairs of bellows, and three anvils, tools worth £7 - 2 - 6, and his whole estate amounted to £116. He was possibly a relative of Matthew Bakewell, whose will of 1689 states that he owned seven horses and was a London carrier.

In addition to these examples of tradesmen citizens who were reasonably well-off, though some must have found it difficult to save much during the Civil War, we have an inventory of the contents of Thomas Salt's house next to Peter Lightfoot's at Bear Hill ; this was the area now known as Market Square near the War Memorial. Originally, in the space round the Memorial there was a small group of shops (and houses) formerly a triangle, with narrow entrances to Church Street and Bridge Street.

Thomas Mastergent had sold this property to Catherine Mastergent in 1631. She sold to her brother, Ralph Bagnall, the house known as the "Old Swan" and adjacent premises ; the messuage between the Old Swan and the land on the west side belonging to William Burton was bought by Thomas Salt, baker, from Ralph Bagnall in 1648. It will be recalled that the town in that year was the scene of the surrender of the remnant of an invading Scottish army under the Duke of Hamilton. There is no doubt that the Parliamentary commander, General Lambert, called upon the town (and the neighbouring villages) for accommodation for his soldiers and for his prisoners ; Redfern relates how the latter did great damage to the churches where they were billeted.

Contributions from the town towards Parliamentary expenses were not perhaps as great as in the 1644-45 period, but the 1648 fighting was renewed in 1651, and we find Parliament troops on the move through Uttoxeter en-route for Worcester, a movement which brought some profit to Peter Lightfoot, as we have noted, for the hire of his horse team.

Yet despite these troubles, we find that in 1648 Thomas Salt could afford to buy the house and ground next to the Old Swan. The baker seems to have lived well by the standards of the period, and by a stroke of fortune for the student of social and home conditions at that time, we have the marriage settlement of 1679 when Thomas Salt's daughter Hannah married Joshua, son of Thomas Robinson of Hill Ridware. The indenture has attached to it an inventory of the whole of the contents of Thomas Salt's house. We print it here as it throws an interesting light on such matters. On the outside of the document is written, "These belong to Deborah Robinson." Possibly she was the daughter of Joshua and Hannah. There are several later entries in the Church Register regarding this family, and it seems that Joshua Robinson was once Churchwarden.

The inventory runs as follows :

INVENTORY (for Marriage Settlement) of contents of House at Bear Hill, Uttoxeter, of Thomas Salt, Baker.

April 7th, 1679.

One Steeled Bedstead, one feather bed, and one flock bed, four blankets, one Rug, two bolsters, two pillows, with curtains and vallances, one long table, three forms, one livery cupboard with a cushion and cloth belonging to it, four stools worked with (*left blank in the original*), two chairs, one joined stool, eight Turkey worked cushions, one pair of tongs and one fire shovel.

One steeled bedstead, one feather bed, one flock bed, four blankets, one coverlid, two bolsters, two pillows with curtains and vallances, one table, one form, one press with a cloth and cushion belonging to it, seven Turkey worked cushions, two chairs, one joined stool, two stools covered with cloth, fire shovel and tongs.

IN A LITTLE ROOM adjoining :

One table and one joined stool.

IN THE BACK CHAMBER OVER THE LITTLE ROOM :

One steeled bedstead, one feather bed, one flock bed, four blankets, one coverlid, two bolsters, two curtains and vallances, one little table, three joined stools, four Kidderminster cushions, one chair.

IN THE ROOM ADJOINING :

One table, one form, six Turkey worked cushions.

IN THE PARLOUR :

One steeled bedstead, one feather bed, one bolster, one pillow, two curtains and vallances, one table with a form, one livery cupboard with cloth and cushions, three Turkey worked cushions and one trundle bed with a flock bed, two blankets, one coverlid, one bolster, one chest, one press, fire shovel and tongs, two joined stools, one close stool, two coffers, one looking glass.

IN THE BREAD HOUSE :

One arke, one castor.

IN THE HOUSE PLACE :

One long table, two forms, three chairs, nine Turkey worked cushions, one screen, six joined stools, two of them covered with (*blank in original*) two little tables, one jack, five spitts, two iron dripping pans, two ranges, one plate, one pair of cupboards?, fire shovel and tongs, one fryingpan, one long grate and frogs.

IN THE LITTLE ROOM :

One Square table.

IN THE CHAMBER OVER THE BAKE-HOUSE :

One pair of bedsteads, one flock bed, three blankets, one coverlid, two bolsters and "*matris*", one table, one form, one Turkey worked stool, two coffers, two Turkey work cushions, one double cupboard, and one looking glass.

IN THE LITTLE ROOM AT THE STAIRS HEAD :

One square table, three cushions.

IN THE UPPER CHAMBER :

One pair of bedsteads, one flock bed, three blankets, one coverlid, two bolsters and a "*matris*", one Bell, and one joined stool.

IN "LINNEN" :

Twelve pair of hemp sheets, eight pair of flaxen sheets, one dozen of pillow covers, four dozen of fine napkins, three dozen of (*blank on original*) napkins, nine table cloths ell wide, three table cloths yard wide, one dozen of hand towels each of them two yards long, six cupboard cloths, two long towels.

IN PEWTER :

Thirty pewter dishes, twenty flagons, five tankards, one dozen of pewter porringers, one dozen of pewter saucers, nine pewter chamber pots, one pewter basin, one pewter pie plate, two pewter candlesticks, one dozen and half of maslin spoons, six maslin candlesticks, three brass pots, two furnaces, one great kettle, two maslin kettles, one iron kettle, one brass warming pan, one iron chafing dish, two basting ladles, one brass "skimer", one brass pan, four pewter salts, two silver spoons, one mashing tub, one *working* vat and such necessities belonging to them, two hogshheads, six barrels, one powdering tub.

IN THE BAKEHOUSE :

One kneading trough, one moulding board, one *witch*, one fire shovel and tongs.

We have further confirmation that life for ordinary citizens in Uttoxeter was not wholly controlled by war conditions. The house, which Thomas Salt had furnished by 1679 in the style shown by the inventory printed above, was bought by him from Ralph Bagnall in 1648. There was a further sale of adjacent property by Ralph Bagnall to Rowland Smith and Michael Henshaw in 1657. It is of course just possible that Ralph Bagnall needed money to meet demands made by war conditions ; but if such was the case, it is evident that the money was forthcoming from those to whom he sold the properties. Katharine Mastergent herself had bought all Thomas Mastergent's property as early as 1631, twelve years before the outbreak of war. We have no information about her husband ; she was designated "widow" in the indenture recording the purchase, and the Uttoxeter Church Register records the burial of an Edward Mastergent on August 30th, 1621, but there is no clear evidence either of his relationship to Thomas Mastergent or to Katharine. She was a sister of Elizabeth Lightfoot, wife of Rev. Thomas Lightfoot, Vicar of Uttoxeter ; also sister of Ralph Bagnall. It may be conjectured that with the appointment of Thomas Lightfoot as

Vicar of Uttoxeter in 1617, some of his wife's relatives from the Stoke district (Bagnall, Penkull, and Fenton, are all mentioned in various records) came to Uttoxeter, or may have already resided in the town. Whether Katharine Bagnall married a Mastergent (an old Uttoxeter family already mentioned on p. 18 of Part III of this work) before 1617 we do not know ; she was already a widow in 1631 as we have noted above, when she bought Thomas Mastergent's property in Uttoxeter. Yet she herself did not long survive ; we have a copy of her will made in 1646 in the middle of the war years. At that time she owned land in Carter Street and elsewhere, and had paid £200 to Thomas Mastergent for all his Uttoxeter property except "one burgage called the Maypole" ; this had previously been sold to Rowland Cotton "Esquire", who also owned part of the Flats. He is recorded as Sir Rowland Cotton later, and was patron of John Lightfoot, 2nd son of Thomas Lightfoot, Vicar of Uttoxeter. He died in 1634 and was buried at Norton-in-Hales, near Ashley, Staffs. It was his knowledge of Hebrew that caused his chaplain John Lightfoot to continue the study of Hebrew, for which the latter became famous in Western Europe.

There is no list of Thomas Mastergent's property which passed to Katherine, but besides some land at the Picknalls and in the Pool Meadow (i.e. near the present Railway and Goods Station at Uttoxeter, she already owned the Crown Inn, which covered a fairly large area near the present shop and warehouses of the Uttoxeter Agricultural Company ; the inn appears to have included some part of the neighbouring buildings ; the old oak beams there have been well preserved and still exist. It seems probable that she inherited these from her husband. By the indenture Katharine Mastergent also undertook to pay Maud, wife of Thomas, twenty marks per annum during the term of Maud's natural life. In the copy of the 1629 manorial survey, there is a short addition to the record of Thomas Mastergent's property, indicating that after Katherine had bought the Uttoxeter lands (except the Maypole) she sold them to various persons noted in the record, almost certainly set down by Peter Lightfoot. It is worth recording these, not only as a matter of interest, but because it is clear that some citizens must have had sufficient wealth to invest in the property. Thus, four acres, called "Wood Close" or "Priest Field", went to William Chamberlain ; he is also recorded as being joint owner with Francis Chamberlain of "a field of pasture adjoining to the High Wood, called "Dymble Close", containing over ten acres.

The Chamberlain family — Francis, William, Edmund, and Edward — held over 39 acres altogether, and must have been moderately wealthy.

Through the courtesy of Mr. L. Glynn I have a copy of a document which records the final agreement made by order of Court at Westminster in 1668. By this Thomas Barnes Junior, and Richard Chamberlain, agreed with Edmund and Elizabeth Chamberlain on the ownership of six acres of pasture with appurtenances in Uttoxeter. Of these parties, only Edmund Chamberlain is mentioned in the survey of 1629 ; he was the son of Edward Chamberlain, who held nine plots of land scattered about the Uttoxeter area.

One close of land “newly enclosed in Bromshulf Field” between three and four acres, was bought by William Fish. His name does not occur in the 1629 survey, but his descendants held land in the Loxley estate down to the 19th century. One close “belowe the waye to Birchley” was also sold to Rowland Manlove, owner of more than forty acres in different parts of the district ; one close of his land “adjoyning to the Wood Leasow” was rented by Peter Lightfoot. It was a large field measuring nearly 13 acres, but the rent paid for this is not set down in the survey. Most rents were low at this period, which may account for some citizens being able to save money for investing in land or house property. Here are some examples from the survey : Thomas Carnell for a smith’s shop — rent 2d p.a. ; Katharine Wilcox holds one cottage and a parcel of the waste at the yearly rent of 2d ; James Keeling for one burgage and one close in the Botham field, containing 1 acre 2 roods and 10 perches, paid 2sh. 3d. p.a. ; John Fauldring rented four tenements and several closes of pasture, and one meadow ; three of these closes were called Snape’s fields, the total being 42 acres, 1 rood, 20 perches, for which he paid £1 - 1 - 0 p.a. ; Thomas Smith (he was Katherine Mastergent’s cousin) had one close in the Woodfield at Balance Hill, two closes of arable and pasture land called Grizzlesich, one tenement in the Market Place, backside to the shop, (he was a Mercer), the total area being six acres, at a yearly rent of 3/3d. John Mottram had three closes being part of Brabson’s farm, another close called Lily Leasow, one close called Cow Leasow, and one other close called Coat Leasow ; the total extent was 18 acres 1 rood and 35 perches, for which he paid 2sh. 3d. yearly. Even allowing for changes in the value of money, these prices do not appear to be unduly high.

After Katharine's death, and that of her brother and executor, Ralph Bagnall, the "Old Swan" (now part of Messrs. Orme's premises in Market Square) passed to her nephew Peter Lightfoot. He thus became next-door neighbour to Thomas Salt, baker, who as stated above, had bought his house from Ralph Bagnall in 1648. The two neighbours had both quarrels and agreements, as we learn from two documents which have been kindly lent to me by Messrs. Orme. The first of these is an indenture dated September 13th, 1660, at which date Peter was living in the "Old Swan" house ; this house passed to Ralph Bagnall after the death of Katharine Mastergent ; Ralph Bagnall, her brother and executor, must have also died between 1657 and 1660 ; in the first of these years he had sold a house at Bear Hill to Rowland Smith and Michael Henshaw, but by 1660 we find Peter Lightfoot in possession ; the indenture of 1660 records the sale of part of Peter's garden to his neighbour the baker, who paid fifteen Pounds (presumably he had made some considerable profit from his business) for — we give the indenture in full from here : "Onc piece or parcell of land lyeing within the garden of the said Peter Lightfoot at his dwelling house called the Old Swan in Uttoxeter aforesaid, adjoyning to the land of John Burton on the west, and the land of the said Peter Lightfoote on the east and south, and lyeth to the land of the said Thomas Salt on the north, containing in lenght (sic) on the side to the land of the said John Burton two and twentic yards and an halfe, and on the side to the garden of the said Peter Lightfoote one and twentic yards and an halfe, and conteyning in Breadth to the land of the said Thomas Salt at the upper end nine yards, in the middle eight yards, and to the garden of the said Peter Lightfoote at the lower end seven yards, be all or anie of the said measures more or lesse, as now the same is set forth and meered (i.e. marked by boundary). Also one parcell of land conteyning fowre yards in lenght (*sic*) and fowre feet in breadth, at the end of the kitchin of the said Peter Lightfoote, to the west on which there is erected a stone wall ; with free liberty to and for the said Thomas Salt, his heires and assigns, with his or their workmen into the garden and backside of the said Peter Lightfoote at all convenient tymes as need shall be to repayre his buildings ; to have and to hold the said premises with their and every of their appurtenances to him the said Thomas Salt, his heires and assigns for ever to the only use and behoof of him the said Thomas Salt, his heires and assigns forever. And the said Peter Lightfoote, his heires, the said premises with their and every of their appurtenances unto him

the said Thomas Salt, his heires and assigns, against him the said Peter Lightfoote and his heires will warrant and forever defend by these presents ; and the said Thomas Salt for himself, his heires and assigns, and for every of them doth covenant, promise, and grant to and with the said Peter Lightfoote, his heires and assigns and to and with every of them by these presents that he the said Thomas Salt, his heires and assigns shall and will from tyme to tyme and at all tymes hereafter make, uphold, keepe, and mainteyne all the fences which shall be betweene the parcel of land in the garden hereby granted, and the garden and land of the said Peter Lightfoote well and sufficiently at their owne proper costs and charges, and further that the said Peter Lightfoote, his heires and assigns, with his or their workmen, shall and may at all tymes convenient as need shall require have free libertie in the yard or backside of the now dwelling house of the said Thomas Salt for the repairing and amending of the buildings of the said Peter Lightfoote, his heires and assigns. In witness whereof the said parties to these presents interchangeably have put their hands and seals the day and year first above written. A.D. 1660."

I have transcribed the chief part of this, not only for its account of the property, but because it is an example of the customary legal expressions, most of which still survive. Moreover, the handwriting closely resembles that of many pages in the MS. book to which frequent reference has been made. Peter Lightfoot's signature at the end does not resemble the script of the document itself, which perhaps confirms the previous suggestion that some at least of what Redfern thought to be Peter's work was more likely to have been written by a scrivener friend of Peter.

The second document from Messrs. Orme's papers is also worth transcribing in full as it not only records both quarrels and agreements between the same two householders, but throws some light on the conditions in which somewhat superior citizens lived at the period we are considering. The date is 29th January, 1663 /4. The handwriting again closely resembles that of some entries in the old MS. book used by Redfern, but Peter Lightfoot's signature at the end differs from the name as written in the text ; it may be that, like many modern signatures, Peter's formal style in such a case differed from his customary handwriting.

The document runs thus : 'To all people to whom this present writing shall come, Peter Lightfoote of Uttoxeter in the County of Stafford, Gent, sendeth greeting in our Lord God everlasting — Know ye that the said Peter Lightfoote hath granted, promised, released and forever quit-claimed and by these presents doth for him and his heires, executors and assigns, promised released and forever quit-claimed unto Thomas Salt of Uttoxeter aforesaid, Baker, his heirs and assigns in his full and peaceable possession and seisin being all manner of right by the interest, clayme and demand whatsoever which he the said Peter Lightfoote his heires and executors or assignes have or at tyme hereafter may have challenge or demand of in or to one entry, shop and two little rooms on the back of the said shop which do adjoin, to and have been formerly and now are held, occupied and enjoyed with the now dwelling house of the said Thomas Salt in Uttoxeter aforesaid, which said entry, shop, and two rooms are all situated and being under certain chambers or buildings which are belonging to the messuage, house and the inheritance of the said Peter Lightfoote ; and the said Peter Lightfoote hath granted for him and his heires by these presents that they, the said entry, shop, and little rooms unto the said Thomas Salt and his heires and assigns against him the said Peter Lightfoote and his heires and assigns shall and will warrant and for ever defend. In witness whereof the said Peter Lightfoote to these presents hath put his hand and seal the nine and twentieth day of January in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and sixty-three.

PETER LIGHTFOOTE.

In addition to the two documents mentioned above, there is a third which is too long to transcribe in full, but which is of interest in the light of what we have recorded about the two residents of what is now called "Market Square", i.e. Peter Lightfoot and Thomas Salt.

The second of the two above documents records that it was agreed between the two principals that the entry (it still exists) between the two houses, also the shop and two rooms on the ground floor belonged to Thomas Salt, while the upper chambers over these rooms were acknowledged to be the property of Peter Lightfoot.

But this bare statement of what was agreed omits some most interesting details. The first point is that this document was signed on January 29th, 1663 /4, the same day as the third document to which we are referring. How did it happen that on this date Thomas Salt was stated to be the owner of the entry and lower shop and rooms, while on the same date *another* agreement was made, stating that there were certain conditions which applied? The reason is this : After Peter Lightfoot became owner and occupier of "The Old Swan", he and Thomas Salt had quarrelled and gone to law about certain matters, and Peter had won the case, or in the words of the document "Whereas there have been several suits presented . . . between Peter Lightfoote of Uttoxeter aforesaid, Gent, and the said Thomas Salt for and concerning certain injuries by him the said Thomas Salt done to the dwelling-house of the said Peter Lightfoote, and on the other side a suit was presented by the said Thomas Salt against the said Peter Lightfoote for certain chambers over the shop and entry of the dwelling house of the said Thomas Salt and in part over the dwelling house of Peter Lightfoote . . . all which things are now agreed between the parties, and Peter Lightfoote hath released unto Thomas Salt all past actions"

This sensible avoidance of further legislation was to the benefit of both men, for Thomas Salt, in return for the release of the rooms by Peter Lightfoot undertook "before the first of March next coming after the date hereof to remove his swine sty, house of office (i.e. his privy) and dunghill from the place where now they are unto some other place remote from the messuage and dwelling-house of Peter Lightfoote with the appurtenances, and shall from tyme to tyme remove and keepe away all things and materials whatsoever which shall in any way endamage, annoy, or prejudice the said messuage."

The account of the Lightfoot family (quoted by Redfern on p. 331 (2nd Edn.) as recorded by Strype, who had it from Rev. Michael Edge, Vicar of Uttoxeter after 1558, states that Peter Lightfoot was often the man who smoothed over difficulties or quarrels between townsmen ; the above agreement with Thomas Salt bears this out, and it seems that there was no further trouble between the neighbours at Bear Hill. At the same time one cannot help remarking on the sanitary

arrangements of the period ; it may well be that Peter Lightfoot's experience as a "practical physician" led him to object to the stench arising from Thomas Salt's dunghill etc. on the ground of hygiene as well as for personal reasons.

Apart from the details already recorded regarding the home and social conditions in Uttoxeter about the time of the Civil War and Restoration, it is worthy of notice that some citizens, with at least a moderate amount of wealth, were moved by charitable feelings towards others less fortunate. We have already mentioned some of those who, with King Henry VIII, found themselves with more wealth after the closing of the monasteries in the previous century. But it may also be concluded that there was a spread of a more earnest religious feeling, following the wider reading of the Bible and the increase in general education. Under the Tudors many new schools were founded or endowed ; thus before the period we are now describing, Uttoxeter had the Grammar School of Thomas Alleyne (1558) and a few years later Ashbourne Grammar School was endowed by Queen Elizabeth herself. Redfern found the rules for Thomas Alleyne's Schools at Stevcnage, Stone, and Uttoxeter copied into the second part of the old MS. book. Those he printed on pp. 408 - 410 (2nd Edn.) ; they are to be found on pp. 16-19 of the "History of Alleyne's Grammar School, Uttoxeter", obtainable from the present School. Though a hundred years before the period we have reached, this may be an appropriate place to record them ; they show both the charitable aims of the founder, and something of the hard times and long hours of labour then prevalent.

MAISTER THOMAS ALLEN

*His Orders of his Grammar Schooles in Stevenage,
Stone and Uttoxeter.*

My dearly beloved children whom I love in Christ and tender you as my selfe, I desire and charge you upon payne of punishment to observe and keepe my orders appointed to be kept in the sd schooles.

I will that all the children within the towne of Stevenage, Stone and Uttoxeter, and within two or three miles compasse of the same, which have learned the booke of the eight parts of speech in English commonly called the accidence perfectly without the booke, and verry perfectly can say the declensions, and can give anie persons in the verbe part when they be examined, and have alsoe learned the concords of Grammer commonly called the English Rules, without the booke perfectly : shall be admitted into this schoole and noe others within the compasse and space here before named.

Item I will that my schoolemaisters of these schooles shall and maye take all manner of Children without the compasse of Two or Three miles of this schoole to his owne proffitt and advantage.

Item I will that all the schollers of theise my schooles shall come into the schoole before seaven of the clocke in the morning from michlms till our ladie daye in lent. And from our ladie daye in lent until michlemas againe they shall come into the schoole before six of the clocke in the morninge *sub pena virgoe*.

Item my schollers shall goe to dinner at eleaven of the clock and come into the schoole againe before one be stricken, *sub pena virgoe*. And they shall goe home at five of the clocke at afternoone.

Item I will that in the morning they shall say *miserere* Psalme kneeling, a *pater noster* and *Credo in deum, et hanc orationem : domine sancte pater omnipotens aeterne deus qui nos ad principium* &c and at the end of the Collect as followeth O most mercyfull father maker of heaven and earth wee most humblie beseech they for Jesus Christ sake to have mercy upon us and give us grace to increase in vertue

and learning to the perpetuall fame and thankfullness of our founder Maistér Allen, and especially to the proffit of thy Universall Church, and Glorie of thy holy name who livest and raigest one god world without end Amen.

- At* one of the Clock before they begin lessons all the schollers kneeling shall saye the ten commandments of Almightye god in Latine &c as they did in the morning.
- Item* at five of the Clock before they depart out of the schoole they shall say the psalme of *Deus misereatur* givinge thanks for their founder as in the morning. *sub pena virgoe.*
- Item* their communication shallbe Latine in all places among themselves, as well in the streets and their playes, as in the schoole. *sub pena virgoe.*
- Item* they shall Rest from the schoole on the thursday in the passion weeke till munday after lowe sundaye ymediately and noe longer : *sub pena expulsionis*, except lycence be obteyned of my schoolemaister for a reasonable cause.
- Item* my schollers shall play all wittson weeke, and noe longer, *sub pena expulsionis* except lycence be asked and obteyned of my schoolemaister.
- Item* they shall play one afternoone everie weeke if their maister doe thinke their diligence doe deserve it, or else not : and that afternoone to be when the schoolemaister doth thinke most convenient, and my schollers most worthie to have it.
- Item* I will that if anie of my schollers use swearing or dishonest gaines, or evill companie of anie men or women or wenches to the hinderance of his learning he shallbe expulsed forth of my schoole, except he amend upon good admonition given to him, and to his friends of his faults by my schoolemaister.
- Item* I will that all my schollers shall behave themselves gently to all kinds of persons of every degree, *sub pena virgoe.*
- Item* I will that all my schollers shall love and reverence my schoolemaister and gently receive punishment of him for their faults. *sub pena expulsionis.*

- Item* I will that all my schollers at their first entrance into my schoole shall give Two pence apeece to a poore scholler appoynted by the maister to keepe the schoole cleane and to provide rods.
- Item* when they go forth to ease themselves, they shall ask leave of their maister, *sub pena virgoe*.
- Item* I will that my schoolemaister shall make good orders, or change fashions in my schoole to the preferment of my schollers if need require that to be done.

— FINIS —

The endowment funds for the School were placed in the trusteeship of the Master, Fellows, and Scholars of Trinity College, Cambridge. In a later part of the work we shall relate, as Redfern did, the story of how the endowment came to be increased. Here it will be sufficient to state that some, if not all of the funds had been provided by Thomas Alleyne's brother Ralph, a wealthy London merchant, who had been Alderman, then Sheriff of London, and a member of the Grocers' Company. In his will, Ralph Alleyne directed that Thomas was to use the legacy "for charitable purposes."

This hundred-years-old example of charity was followed in 1594 by Anne Blount ; she was described as of Clerkenwell, Middlesex, but was a member of an acient Staffordshire family. Her legacy provided £100 to the town of Uttoxeter to be used to aid "such persons as might fall into decay by fire, or death of cattle, sickness or otherwayes, with this proviso in the said will contayned to this effect — that every such person or persons that should have anie part of the aforesaid money to his or their use should put in sufficient sureties for the repayment of such sums as they and every of them should have so lent unto him or them." This very sensible legacy must have been of great benefit to citizens whose livelihood depended on the land and cattle, when they suffered any of the set-backs mentioned, and as they had to repay the loan, there was provision made for future loss suffered by others.

There is a record in the old MS. book used by Redfern, which shows that in 1616 a number of prominent men of the neighbourhood agreed with Walter Mynors, then bailiff of Uttoxeter, to change (by the authority of the Court of Chancery) the method of carrying out Anne Blount's charitable purposes. It had come about by experience that some of those who had had losses of the kind mentioned above were unable to provide the necessary sureties for repayment. In fact, Edward Blount, who was responsible under Anne Blount's will for ensuring that £100 was available, was alarmed that "a great part of the said money was in great perill to be lost ; for which reason the said Edward Blount hath, for four years last past or thereabout, kept the said hundred pounds in his hands ; in regard whercof for the full performance of the trust in him reposed he the said Edward Blount is contented to make, by the said summe of one hundred pounds, the full summe of seaven score pounds and pay the same to the aforesaid Walter Mynors - - - who for the love that he, the said Walter, beareth to the towne of Uttoxeter and also for the furtherance of so charitable a worke, he the said Walter Mynors is pleased to take the said summe of seaven score pounds into his hands for his owne use, and in consideration thereof to grant out of his owne lands a yearly rent charge of fourteene pounds to be yearly bestowed unto such persons unto whom the benefitt - - - - as by the aforesaid last will of Anne Blount aforesaid appointed or intended, or such as shall hereafter have most need thereof."

This extract from the rather long record shows that Walter Mynors was very charitably disposed towards any unfortunate small yeomen or farmers, and was ready to ensure that Anne Blount's wishes could be carried out. The proposal he made was accepted on behalf of the town by Anthony Kynnersley, John Milward, Richard Browne, Richard Startyn, Edward Allen, Thomas Mastergent, Edward Mastergent, and Richard Heaton. The annual sum was to be charged upon the pasture land of Sweetholme, and the Uttoxeter men concerned were even assured that the yearly payment was made by having power to "enter and distrain" until the required sum was received. The agreement was also endorsed by Edward Blount, so that Anne Blount's charitable bequest was permanently assured. (Later we shall find that this, and other Uttoxeter charities were tabulated by Redfern on pp. 413 - 423 (2nd Edn.), but here the matter has been fully described to show how regard for others in need was to be found).

Some remarks may be made with regard to the Uttoxeter men who are listed in the deed. Anthony Kynnersley was the squire of Loxley, whose land extended as far as "Little Bromshull", i.e. on the south side of the road through the village, which formed part of the parish of Uttoxeter up to the time when this and the Parish of Bramshall were joined. Anthony Kynnersley was buried at Uttoxeter in 1622. John Milward (called Esquire in the 1629 Survey) is recorded as having purchased "Pasture and Woodie Ground" called Knightsland from Lord Aston. Richard Browne was almost certainly the deceased husband of Mary Browne, widdow, who once owned the "verry fayre house at the upper end of the High Street, with a fayre garden and croft" which had passed to the Flyer family already mentioned in this work. Redfern later (on pp. 320 - 325 (2nd Edn.)) described how, on the death of Dr. Taylor he had examined the old house and found the initials and date R.B. and M.B. 1600, cut in the wainscoting of an upper room. Redfern seems to have overlooked the probability that these initials were those of Richard and Mary Browne, or that Richard Browne was the person whose name is given in the list of those concerned with the agreement above recorded.

Richard Startyn was, of course, a prominent citizen of Uttoxeter whose name we have mentioned in several parts of this work. Edward Allen was a well-to-do inhabitant who had land at the end of Carter Street, also on the west of the Hockley, amounting in 1629 to nearly thirty-four acres.

Richard Heaton was recorded in the 1629 Survey as holder of over forty-four acres of land ; these included places which retained their names for many years, e.g. Maiden's Well, Russell's Spring, Bowling Alley. The last-named is not the Bowling Green which Samuel Bentley, the Uttoxeter poet, described, with its pavilion, in one of his poems. The Bowling Alley cannot be placed exactly ; at present all that can be discovered is that it was either near the present car park in Church Street, or on lower ground at the bottom of Dove Bank.

Thomas Mastergent has already been named in several places, and Edward Mastergent, alive in 1616, appears to have been the husband of Katharine Mastergent, widow, already appearing in this work. The Church Register entry shows that Edward Mastergent was buried on August 30th

1621, which would explain the omission of his name and holdings from the 1629 Survey ; if he was indeed Katharine's husband, it would seem that their marriage took place from wherever the Bagnall family home was, for I have found no entry of this marriage in the Uttoxeter Register. Katharine's holdings given in the 1629 Survey, were as follows : One close of meadowe called the ould Poole, also Poole Meadow, containing over nine acres ; (there is a marginal note, added some years later, giving Peter Lightfoot as the owner). One "sell" (i.e. inn) called the Crown. The "Crown Inn", recorded by Redfern on pp. 305 and 306 (2nd Edn.) has now been replaced by the premises of the Uttoxeter Agricultural Company's shop and the neighbouring shops on that side of the Market Place. One close in Picknall, late Walter Mynors, containing over nine acres ; (there is a marginal note, added some years later, giving Peter Lightfoot as the owner). One "sell" (i.e. inn) called the Crown. The "Crown Inn", recorded by Redfern on pp. 305 and 306 (2nd Edn.) has now been replaced shop and the neighbouring shops on that side of the Market Place. One close in Picknall, late Walter Mynors, containing one acre and twenty-five perches.

Later, by her will we find that she owned a Barn in Carter Street, and left this and all that belonged to it to the Churchwardens and overseers of the poor for the parish of Uttoxeter ; the same to be employed for a habitation for three aged and "impotent" poor widows of the town, who shall be "of honest and religious conversation". The barn was shortly after her death to be made habitable for these widows and the expense of this work was to be taken from her estate.

We have recorded previously that Katharine Mastergent had paid £200 to Thomas Mastergent for most of his property in houses and land ; it seems safe to conclude that her late husband had been reasonably wealthy, but her relatives Ralph Bagnall, Peter Lightfoot and his sisters did not receive the whole of her property. In addition to their "habitation", i.e. three rooms in her converted barn, the three poor widows were to be given yearly a gown each ; the cost of these was to be paid by a yearly charge out of the rent of the Pool Meadow, and Katharine's cousin, Thomas Smythe, Mercer, was to be responsible.

Francis Flyer is shown on the old Church map to be the owner of the land alongside the brook between Pinfold Street

and the Hockley, and it would seem that he was to be responsible for this payment. Katharine's will was witnessed by Lawrence Dawson, Lawrence Bradshaw, Peter Lightfoot and Edward Wright. It seems probable that the last-named was ancestor of John Wright, who in 1729 owned "Tinker's Croft" in Stone Road (where the new Telephone Exchange now stands). John Wright's property was thus adjacent to Katharine Mastergent's almshouses for three poor widows, and he left a sufficient legacy to provide for one poor widow in the same place. The present almshouses were re-built over 50 years ago, and still provide four apartments, named "Wright and Mastergent Almshouses

We have already noted that Redfern, towards the end of his work, gave a complete list of Uttoxeter Charities, but it is remarkable how many of these confirm that there appears to have been more charitable feelings during the Stuart period.

We take next the will of Robert Coxe, yeoman, described as late of Uttoxeter. He appointed Edward Mynors, William Hunt, Luke Busby and William Startyn to have charge of an annual payment of twenty shillings during the life of Joyce Coxe, his wife. After her death an annuity of forty shillings was to be made ; both yearly sums were to arise from close or pasture known as Monksfield. The money was to be paid at the South door of the Parish Church at the feast of the Annunciation of St. Mary the Virgin and St. Michael the archangel by equal portions. It was to be distributed amongst "the most indigent and poore people being borne and inhabiting in Uttoxeter."

This will was dated October 22nd, 1621, and was proved at Caverswall on December 2nd, 1624. It was witnessed by Thomas Lightfoot, Richard Startyn, and Edward Gilbert ; Joyce Coxe is named Executrix, and Edward Taylor and Henry Pixley overseers.

Redfern noted on p. 415 (2nd Edn.) that later the Monksfield was purchased by Queen Anne's Bounty for the Vicarage. The legacy was employed in purchasing shoes for poor people.

Robert Coxe is not mentioned in the survey of 1629, and it seems that he and his wife had passed on by that time.

Uttoxeter was also remembered by a more aristocratic person "Dorothie Okcover". We have only a short extract from her will which was copied into the MS. book used by Redfern. This extract runs : Item — I give to the town of Uttoxeter forty pounds as a constant standing stock, to be employed for the use and benefit of the poor inhabitants of the same town at the discretion of the Minister and Churchwardens and the most substantial and sufficient men of the Parish.

Dorothy Okcover's will was dated March 13th, 1626, and was proved at Lichfield on May 16th, 1627. It is noteworthy that "Hervie Bagot" was Executor, and 'Thomas Lightfoot (Vicar) and John Taylor were set down as Overseers. Again we have to note that this charitable gift was made in the early years of the century, showing, as we have said, that a kindly feeling to poorer people was prevalent ; moreover, the Okcover family home was some distance from Uttoxeter.

It may be recalled that Peter Lightfoot commented very unfavourably on the part played (or neglected) by William Poker at Nottingham regarding the attempt to take away Uttoxeter's common rights over part of Needwood Forest.

But William Poker was not a wealthy man, but he bequeathed to the poor of Uttoxeter and Marchington a small field of just over one acre (rented in Redfern's time at £4 per annum).

William Poker's instruction was that on Good Fridays twelve loaves of bread costing threepence each were to be distributed both at Uttoxeter and Marchington. The will was made on January 8th, 1636 /37 and witnessed by Peter Lightfoot, William Bath, and Thomas Smales. A codicil was annexed on the 14th of the same January, by which 'Timothy Startin of Uttoxeter and 'Thomas Gilbert of Doveridge were appointed to assist in disposing of the profits as set down in the will. Again it is good to note the charitable purpose of the legacy and to add that Anne, wife of William Poker, agreed as Executrix.

We next put on record a charitable bequest by a business man of Uttoxeter, made while the outbreak of war had been renewed after the victory of Parliament at Naseby was thought to be final. We have recorded the Scottish attack on Parliament which ended with the surrender of the Duke of Hamilton to General Lambert at Uttoxeter in 1648. On February 12th, 1648/49, Robert Gilbert of Uttoxeter, Ironmonger, made his will ; he must have more than once been compelled to contribute, as we have seen, to both sides of the contest as the town was visited at different times, and to Parliament after 1645. His legacy, no doubt limited by these war conditions, was an annual charge upon his dwelling-house in the town of twenty shillings for ever. This was to be paid on September 29th to the Vicar and Churchwardens for purchasing shoes for old impotent poor people. The testator seems to have expected that difficulties might arise in obtaining the required money, for he gave to the Vicar, Churchwardens and other persons responsible, the right to enter the premises and distrain for the required amount "in case the said rent be behind and unpaid in the tyme limited". The will was witnessed by the Vicar, Thomas Lightfoot, his son Peter Loghtfoot, Joseph Hay, and Rowland Daintry. Despite the conditions then prevailing, the will was proved at Caverswall on May 17th, 1649.

Another war-time legacy was that of a famous Uttoxeter man, John Dynes, by trade a butcher. His will was made in 1644, his wife Mary Dynes being Executrix, and witnessed by George Clare and William Gilbert. The first of these men lived near Woodlands Hall, and only had a few acres to farm, which were later owned by Sir Rowland Cotton, whom we have already mentioned as the owner of part of the present Flats ; also as the patron of Dr. John Lightfoot. William Gilbert lived at Doveridge, but held eleven acres of land in Uttoxeter, one field of his near Doveland's being called the Goose croft. John Dynes must have made his living by his trade as a butcher, for he only held just over one acre of land along what is now the Ashbourne Road. But even in the year 1644, in the midst of civil war, he made provision for the Vicar or Minister of Uttoxeter in setting forth and placing of children as apprentices ; and his wife Mary Dynes agreed to continue this until she passed on herself ; the funds to be used were to accumulate for three years and then to be at the Vicar's disposal as directed.

In his later account of John Dyne's bequest, Redfern noted that alterations in the original bequest were authorised by the Charity Commissioners in 1876 (see p. 113, 2nd Edn.). There had also been an investment of surplus charity money in the hands of the trustee by the purchase of 20 acres of land called "Dyne's Lane" on the Marchington side of Uttoxeter ; the rent, about £30 yearly, was to be distributed to the Poor.

It should be observed that even in 1644, the year of the battle of Marston Moor, the Lichfield probate office was working, also that Uttoxeter tradesmen were still training apprentices. Still, the charitable intentions of the butcher in a time when money was not too easily saved provide another example of the attitude which we are illustrating.

We have noted above, in regard to the bequests of Katharine Mastergent, that by 1647 (when most men thought that the war was virtually over) the probate office was at Caverswall ; this, of course, refers to the Caverswall between Blythe Bridge and Meir in North Staffordshire, and not to the small group of farms near Burndhurst Mill on the Stafford Road.

On previous pages we have related the story of John Spencer of Uttoxeter, who became Librarian of Sion House, London. It was stated that he was apprenticed to a Stationer in London, and may have left Uttoxeter as a poor boy, son of a widow, Isabel Spencer.

The Survey of 1629 shows that a Robert Spencer held one half burgage formerly Mynors land, also one close of land in the Woodfield, i.e. between the High Wood and the town, which once belonged to the Fern family. But by 1629 the land was said to belong to the heirs of Robert Spencer. A copy of the will of Stephen Spencer, of Leigh, was included by the scrivener in the MS. book used by Redfern. It is dated 1625 and, though we have no indication as to the relationship, if any, between Robert, John, Isabel and Stephen, we find another example of charity towards the poor in this will. Stephen Spencer is described as "late of Leighe". One paragraph of the will runs : "I give to and for the use and behoofe of the poore of Uttoxeter Ten pounds to be disposed of in land by the oversight of Richard Startyn and Richard Burton, to be paid by mine Executor within one year of my decease. My will is that the proffit of the land to be bought

shall be yearly distributed to the poore by the said Richard and Richard with the consent of the Churchwardens and overseers.”

Dated the 27th day of August, 1625.
Sampson Spencer of Field, *Executor*.

Hervie Bagott, Esqre.
William Sherrat
Francis Ward, *Overseers*.

Proved at Lichfield the 21st of October, 1625.

It may be noted that Hervie Bagott had a residence at Field ; and Francis Ward may have been a relative, (or indeed the man himself) of the Francis Ward who caused considerable trouble in Uttoxeter and Stone, when he claimed in 1567 that the Tillington Manor, Stafford, left by Thomas Alleyne towards the Grammar Schools at Uttoxeter and Stone, really belonged to him. Court proceedings followed, but the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Trinity College, Cambridge, Trustees of Thomas Alleyne's Will, gained the verdict. Previously the Masters of the two Schools, Thomas Pinder, of Uttoxeter, and Nicholas Barker, of Stone, had received no stipend since Francis Ward brought his action ; so that in the end little harm other than inconvenience was caused to the two Schools ; they actually had “over four score” pupils at each place.

It will not have escaped the reader's notice that we have mentioned some prominent Uttoxeter persons to whom Redfern referred in a special chapter later in his book, Chap. VIII, p. 316 (2nd Edn.), being headed “Ancient Families of Uttoxeter, and Families of Distinction”. Redfern went to considerable trouble over these, and it will be found that only in some cases, e.g. Dr. John Lightfoot, has it been possible to add very much to his account. But it has also been noted, especially when dealing with the conditions of smaller landholders, town tradesmen, etc., that they appear to have suffered heavily from both Royalist and Parliamentary forces during the war. Yet we have also noted that they also appear to have been frugal and industrious enough to have recovered by the Restoration in 1660, if not before. It may therefore be of interest, before relating the chief events late in the 17th century, to give an account of what we know of some such citizens. We will begin with Richard Startin, first mentioned when he and Thomas Degg found sufficient money to buy wholesale quantities of timber in the Uttoxeter part of

Needwood Forest in 1625. They are said by Peter Lightfoot to have transacted this business with Sir Edward Mosley, Attorney to the Duchy of Lancaster. It may well be asked how far that knight, ancestor of the present Mosley family, was authorised to do this ; during Queen Elizabeth's time, Duchy affairs appear to have been strictly supervised, and we know that King James thought highly of his new hunting possibilities in Needwood.

However this may be, in 1625 his son Charles was apparently only too ready to obtain money from his inheritance, and certain courtiers undoubtedly made profitable business transactions over the Uttoxeter area. It is reasonable to suppose, therefore, that Richard Startin and Thomas Degg followed suit. They did this so thoroughly that Peter Lightfoot describes how "in a short time, all was fallen and the ground made plain". We are not told whether Startin and Degg made their fellow citizens pay heavily when they bought the timber "piece meal" from the two speculators.

In the Survey of 1629, we can see that Richard Startin was already quite a prominent and well-to-do townsman. He held one burgage which went with his dwelling-house, another burgage and croft, also four acres, in the Common field, both of these being "formerly Naylor's". He had another two burgages and a half ; Conway's house and croft, one close called "Cox Bank", one close called "Heath Spot" (it will be recalled that this Heath Spot was the land between Ashbourne Road and the area around Weaver Lodge which was granted to Adam Hunter by Robert de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, some time before 1265), part of Tinsset Park, late belonging to Mr. Walter Mynors.

All these appear to indicate a yeoman of some prosperity ; but the survey goes on to list one close adjoining Timber Lane (N.B. — this lane was in existence long before Mary Hewitt's father held land there two hundred years later). Richard also had the land containing Maidens' Wall towards the bottom of the High Wood, some Picknalls land, "two crofts of land in Bromshulf Field at Kiddlesick", six lands and five lands near to Tinkers' Lane (i.e. Stone Road). He also had considerable areas in the Botham Field (i.e. along Ashbourne Road), more land "shutting towards Dove Bridge", and some other lands in both the "Little Broad Meadow" and in the "Great Broad Meadow", i.e. on the North side of the present Railway opposite the Race Course.

It is not to be wondered, then, that when Walter Mynors made himself and his heirs responsible for maintaining the charity left by Anne Blount (this has been related above), Richard Startin was named with Anthony Kynnersley, Esq., Ralph Mynors, Edward Chamberlain, and eleven other prominent citizens to see that the agreed terms were carried out.

I have found in the Church Register that Ann Startin, wife of William Startin, was buried on November 10th, 1621, and William Startin himself was buried on February 6th, 1630 /31. He was Richard's brother, but clearly not so wealthy as he is listed as holding only about four acres of land ; we know nothing of any other property or trade with which he was occupied. I have not been able to find Richard's burial (some pages of the register are almost illegible), but we have the burial of Isabel Startin, widow, in September 1633. It would seem that Richard had himself died before then, and the old map to which we have often referred gives Timothy Startin, son of Richard, in occupation of all the former Startin lands. We have also recorded that Timothy was heavily fined as a Royalist by Parliament, though his wife had property restored by the Stafford Parliamentary Committee. The Startin family survived these troubles ; indeed, the name still occurs here in the twentieth century.

It may be of interest to record some details of the Spencer family which have been found since our notice of John Spencer, the apprentice stationer in London who eventually occupied the important post of Librarian at Sion College.

As we conjectured, Isobel Spencer, widow, with some, but very little land, was the widow of Robert Spencer whose will was dated September 1st, 1620. He was not a poor man, his goods being estimated at £75 - 1 - 8, though we are not told what his business was. But we do know that he had three other sons besides John Spencer, and the date of his will fits in well with the dates when John went to London. Under his father's will he was to receive, as was the case of all the brothers, a cash legacy of at least £10 with 42 shillings more when he reached the age of 21. These payments and the task of bringing up a family of four sons all under age, must have been hard on the widow Isobel. Nine years after her husband's death she was reduced to living on four acres near the High Wood, so that John's departure for London can be well understood. We have no record of what became of the

three younger brothers, Richard, Robert, and Thomas. The names of the witnesses of the will have already occurred in this work ; they were Thomas Lightfoot, Vicar, Richard Startin, and Edward Moore.

Of the four appraisers of the value of Robert Spencer's estate, we find the name of Robert Cludd. This was a member of a family who had an oil shop in the Sheep Market (now Market Street) and it was there fifty years later that the disastrous fire began, which destroyed much of Balance Street.

We return finally to a family whose name has frequently come into our story — the Mastergents. Thomas Mastergent we know had considerable property in several areas, and a residence at Bear Hill (Market Square). I had already noted the burials of Edward Mastergent in 1621 and of John Mastergent in 1628 ; I have now been able to establish the relationship of all these with Katharine Mastergent, widow, whom we have often mentioned ; her name is, of course, still to be found over one of the groups of Almshouses in Carter Street ; she has always been termed "widow".

The facts now clear are : In the early years of that century, two brothers, Thomas and Edward Mastergent, were prominent men in Uttoxeter ; we have already noted the houses (in Market Square) and other lands of Thomas, now we know that Edward was his brother and the list of household and other property of Edward Mastergent occupies two foolscap pages. Here we can only note that the furniture, bedding and linen were of high class. At the same time there is evidence (cheese press, and a number of cheeses, six flitches of bacon, and similar items) showing that practical use was made of the number of fields which were family holdings.

The John Mastergent who died in 1628, only seven years after his father, seems to have shown some traits of a difficult son — Edward's will lays down that if John does not carry out the orders given in his father's will, his sole inheritance would be £5.

But John himself left a will ; his sister Mary was to have the remaining years of the lease of the Crown (now Messrs. Bamfords shop in the Market Place) and some bedding and furniture ; otherwise most of his money was left in small sums to the children of his neighbours, no less than fifteen being mentioned by name. He even bequeathed small sums to his

mother's servants. We can only conjecture that he and his family did not agree very well. What became of his sister Mary we do not know, but in 1629 the "Crown" was owned by Katharine, the mother, so perhaps Mary Mastergent had left the town, it may be to marry, or had followed her brother to an early grave. We end this account of widow Katharine's family matters by noting that once more we find Richard Startin serving (with Richard Heaton) as an appraiser. The only witness close to the family was Ralph Bagnall, brother of Katharine and therefore John's uncle, the other witness being William Spragg ; of him we know that Peter Lightfoot had a rather poor opinion.

There are many other indications as to the life of ordinary citizens after the Restoration in 1660, and further details of events in Needwood Forest. Redfern passed on, as we have seen, to 1688, but the next part of this work will include before that a continuation of the contents of wills and other documents.

ERRATA for PART IV.

- Page 2 line 32 "most disliked" should be "the more disliked"
line 33 insert "and" after "Palatine"
- Page 15 line 29 for "wood" read "road"
- Page 21 line 30 for "oppointed" read "appointed"
- Page 22 line 22 after "Uttoxeter" insert semi-colon.
- Page 23 line 4 for "Stratford" read "Strafford"
line 11 after Windsor" add full stop.
- Page 24 line 20 for "content" read "intent"
line 38 for "than" read "then"
- Page 37 line 29 for "1649" read "1648"
- Page 38 line 32 for "quarreling" read "quarelling"

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